REMARKS

In the Office Action, Claims 1-9, 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,043,024 to Dinsmore et al. and Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dinsmore et al.

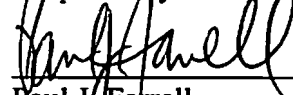Claims 1 and 3 have been amended. No new subject matter is added.

The present invention applies key update assignment that transmits the node keys in different modes according to the change of a UE. In contrast, Dinsmore et al. discloses that each of a plurality of users independently updates the shared key D on a tree portion. See Fig. 3B of Dinsmore et al. Claim 1, which is the only pending independent claim, has been amended to recite determining whether key update assignment that transmits these node keys in different modes according to the change of a UE.

In addition, in regard to dependent Claim 7, the Office Action cited Col. 2, lines 54-57, of Dinsmore et al. as allegedly disclosing that "Dinsmore further discloses … the key update of node is performed only after the key updates of all its child nodes finish." (Office Action, page 4.) To the contrary, neither the cited section nor elsewhere does Dinsmore disclose or suggest only performing the key update of each node after the key updates of all its child nodes finish, as in Claim 7. Rather, the cited section of Dinsmore et al. teaches receiving a new key via a message that was encrypted with a leaf node key of a non-evicted user.

In view of the preceding remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims herein, namely Claims 1-12, are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, it is requested that Examiner contact Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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